NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney's Office

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Two Quincy Men Charged with Conspiracy to Distribute Crack Cocaine

Springfield, IL - Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that a federal grand jury has returned an indictment charging two Quincy, Illinois men with conspiring to distribute crack cocaine. The indictment charges Dwayne Jett, age 21, of 1223 Vermont, and Jermarel Jackson, age 23, address unknown, with conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine from July 2005 until April 28, 2006.

If convicted, each defendant faces a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years to life imprisonment. If a defendant has a previous conviction for one felony drug offense, the mandatory minimum sentence is 20 years to life imprisonment; defendants with two or more prior felony drug convictions face mandatory life imprisonment.

A federal criminal complaint was filed against both men on July 19, 2006, who remain in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service pending trial.

The charges are the result of an investigation by the West Central Illinois Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John E. Childress.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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